**Henry Tudor’s character and aims**

* Henry a fugitive who brought invading army for Wales from France.
* A fugitive because he had been in France since his uncle, Jasper Tudor, fled. Edward IV won power for House of York in Battle of Tewkesbury. Many Lancastrians had died or had been executed so Jasper Tudor fled.
* Richard III “overjoyed” as he thought he’d beat the “rebel”. However, said there were “false and malicious imaginations” for him to be King.
* His army massively outnumbered Henry’s – unlikely to win.
* Family
	+ Henry VII had been the Earl of Richmond. However, he had been exiled with his uncle so had no experience of government. A sharp observer. According to Geoffery Elton, “long exile tamed him and taught him to hide his feelings and veil his purposes.” Also, “where it suited his purpose, money was spent freely.”
	+ Father: Edmund Tudor. Mother: Lady Margaret Beaufort who was the descendant of Edward III. Great but illegitimate as Owen had used Katherine as his mistress so was born into a non-marriage! She was later made legitimate but was barred from succession.
	+ Owen Tudor, his grandfather was a Welsh servant. He had secretly married Katherine who was Henry V’s widow, 50 years earlier.
	+ Katherine Swynford had previously been married to Henry V. When he died, she had several children with Owen Tudor before marrying him.
* Arrived on Mill Bay and said, “Judge me O Lord and favour my cause.”
* Novice in battles – remained stationed at back.
* His forces lead by John de Verre, Lancastrian general, earl of Oxford.
* Henry won throne only through defeat of Richard and “right of conquest” (Lara Eakins).
* Henry “infinitely suspicious”, a “dark prince”.
* Emaciated by stress and illness by death.